

Region 2 Weekly Report to the Administrator  
November 30, 2017

Hot issues:

**Not Responsive**

**Limetree Bay Terminal, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands:** On 11/9 Limetree Bay Terminals, LLC (LBT) met OAR to discuss LBT's proposal to restart parts of the old HOVENSA refinery operations and to construct 2 new projects. Incoming Air AA Bill Wehrum will be briefed on 12/7. LBT requests that by mid-December, EPA amend the Consent Decree to allow LBT to proceed with: (1) a single-point mooring (SPM) project; (2) a refinery restart project; and (3) a renewable biodiesel production project. EPA must determine whether the Reactivation policy applies to the refinery restart project (LBT believes it does not); whether the project can use "project netting" for a project that only involves existing emissions units (LBT believes it can); and whether the refinery restart and renewable diesel projects are separate (LBT believes they are). LBT also seeks confirmation that SPM is part of the existing docks emissions unit and not separately a new emissions unit.

In a related matter, the Corps of Engineers published a public notice for the construction/installation of a SPM and underwater fuel transfer system at LBT. The purpose is to allow very large fuel carriers (requiring depths of -76 feet) to enter the existing channel and discharge fuel without the need to transfer the fuel to smaller vessels (fuel lightering). The 4.33-acre project area includes 1.65 acres that support corals listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Concerns include the potential dragging impacts from the large mooring chain, the removal of hard limestone and possibly bedrock as part of the required dredging, safety requirements, and lack of a NEPA document to assess alternatives. Region 2 will be requesting a 15-day time extension from the 12/8 comment deadline. During this time, the RA will also be reviewing the Limetree Bay proposed actions.

**Past Week:**

**not responsive**